



Durham Soil and Water Conservation District

And

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Joint Annual Plan of Work

July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

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MAJOR OBJECTIVES

- I.** Carry out effective Community Conservation Programs
- II.** To install and demonstrate Stream Restoration Projects
- III.** Maintain NC Agriculture Cost Share Program
- IV.** Maintain a strong Environmental Education Program
- V.** Support the 2002 Farm Bill by implementing the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- VI.** Enhance District Image
- VII.** Seek new funding sources for District activities
- VIII.** Support the development, adoption, and implementation of a comprehensive Farmland Preservation Ordinance by the Board of County Commissioners
- IX.** Work closely with Durham City and County Government in the implementation of a strong water quality improvement program
- X.** Assist with implementing State Regulations pertaining to the Upper Neuse River Basin
- XI.** Carry out effective EEO Program

ASSOCIATING AGENCIES

- I. City of Durham
 - a. Storm Water Services
 - b. Environmental Resources

County of Durham

- a. General Services

Durham Parks and Recreation
Durham Public School System
Durham Soil and Water Conservation
NC Big Sweep
NC Stream Watch
One NC Naturally
NC Division of Soil & Water Conservation
Wildlife Resources Commission
Durham County Government

- II. City of Durham
 - a. Storm Water Services
 - b. Environmental Resources

County of Durham

- a. General Services

Durham Correctional Center
NRCS
Clean Management Trust Fund
EPA
NC Water Resources
Durham County Government

- III. Division of Soil and Water of the Environment, Health and Natural Resources (EHNR)
 - Division of Water Quality
 - Durham County Government

- IV. Division of Soil and Water of EHNR
 - a. Water Quality

Durham City Public Works Department

- a. Stormwater Management

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Department of Durham County General Services
Durham Parks and Recreation
Durham Public School System
Durham Soil and Water Conservation District
Environmental Protection Agency
Natural Resource Conservation Service, USDA
NE Central Community Youth Groups
North Carolina State University
 a. Biological and Agricultural Engineering
 b. NCSU Cooperative Extension Service
TECSTAR
Durham County Government

- V. United States Department of Agriculture
 - a. Farm Service Agency
 - b. Natural Resources Conservation Service
 - c. Wildlife Resources Commission

- VI. Herald Sun, News & Observer, WTVD channel 11, WRAL channel 5/Fox 50, Channel 17, etc

- VII. Agricultural Advisory Service
Division of Soil and Water of the EHNR
 - a. Soil
 - b. Wetlands

Durham City Environmental Resources Department

- a. Water Treatment

Durham City Engineering Department

- a. Stormwater Management

Durham Parks and Recreation
Durham Soil & Water Conservation District
Environmental Protection Agency

- a. Air Quality
- b. Water Quality

Durham County Government
NC Forest Service
NC Wildlife Resource Commission

- a. Fish Biologist
- b. Enforcement

- VIII. Durham County Tax Office
Farmland Advisory Board
Durham County Government
- IX. Durham County Stormwater
Durham City Public Works
 - a. Stormwater Management
Durham County/City Environmental Affairs Board
Eno River Association
New Hope Creek Corridor Committee
Environmental Engineering
Upper Neuse River Basin Association
Durham City Environmental Resources Department
 - a. Water treatment
Durham County Government
- X. Division of Water Quality
Durham County Government
- XI. Carry out effective EEO Program
Durham County Government

OBJECTIVE I – CARRY OUT EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

Goal 1 – Seek Support for Community Conservation Activities

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Be informed about what is potentially available for funding Community Conservation	Director	All Year
2)	Attend relevant meetings on community conservation	Eurquhart Staff	All Year
3)	Solicit support from Urban, Rural and Environmental groups	Full Board	All Year

Goal 2 – Perform Community Conservation Activities

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Coordinate county-wide Adopt-a-Stream Program	Staff Full Board	All Year

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2)	Coordinate Rain Barrel sale for water saving benefits To county and city citizens	Staff Full Board	All Year
3)	Engage public/private schools, community groups, local businesses, and interested individuals in community conservation activities	Full Board	All Year
4)	Publicize accomplishments	Staff	All Year

Goal 3 – Sponsor Countywide Big Sweep Stream Cleanup

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Attend Big Sweep Orientation Meeting	Staff	As Scheduled
2)	Coordinate County's Big Sweep efforts	Staff	August
3)	Seek sponsors from area businesses	Full Board Staff	All Year
4)	Conduct countywide stream cleanups	Staff Volunteers	October
5)	Publicize results	Staff	All Year

Goal 4 – Assist urban landowners with natural resource concerns

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Conduct drainage and erosion inventory and evaluation As requested	Staff	All Year
2)	Provide technical assistance as needed	Staff	All Year

Goal 5 – Support development of Central Park

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Actively participate in City and County initiatives concerning Central Park	Staff	All Year
2)	Provide technical assistance for the development Of the park	Staff	As requested

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Goal 6 – Develop and Implement a Beaver Management Program

<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1) Develop a ranking system and cost share rate for Landowners to participate	Staff	August
2) Promote program to citizens through means of website, newsletter, media, etc.	Staff	All Year
3) Solicit additional funding for managing additional sites	Full Board	March

OBJECTIVE II – TO INSTALL AND DEMONSTRATE STREAM RESTORATION PROJECTS

Goal 1 – Seek Additional Stream Restoration Projects

<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1) Solicit partnerships in stream restoration projects	Full Board	All Year
2) Select sites for possible restoration	Full Board	All Year
3) Conduct Tours	Full Board	All Year
4) Promote to Media	Full Board Staff	All Year

Goal 2 – Seek Grant Funding for Additional Projects

<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1) Seek a cooperative relationship with Grant funding Agencies	Staff	All Year
2) Apply for area, local, State and Federal grant monies for rehabilitation of streams in the Neuse and Cape Fear River Basin	Full Board	All Year

Goal 3 – Become educated on the latest technology

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Attend various training on stream restoration techniques	Staff	All Year
2)	Solicit additional funding for training	Full Board	March

OBJECTIVE III- MAINTAIN NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURE COST SHARE PROGRAM

Goal 1 – Update Cost Share Strategy Plan for addressing BMP concerns

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Meet with agricultural agency heads to gather data for the plan	Staff	May
2)	Update the plan showing estimated funding needs, acres treated and water quality priority areas	Staff	May

Goal 2 – Implement Program by assisting landowners with the installation of conservation practices

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Prioritize water quality problems within the District	Full Board	All Year
2)	Continue to contact landowners to encourage participation in Cost Share Program	Full Board Staff	All Year
3)	Conduct Annual 5% Spot Check to ensure practices Meet standards	Minimum one Board Member	May
4)	Plan design and install needed BMPs through NCACSP to meet yearly goals	Staff	All Year

Goal 3 – Maintain State and County funding for districts Cost Share Programs

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Lobby Durham Legislative delegation for continued support of Cost Share Program	Full Board	December February
2)	Lobby State Soil and Water Conservation Commission for increased allocation of Cost Share monies to Durham County	Full Board	August January March June
3)	Lobby County Commissioners for increased funding Of the Districts Resource Conservation Program	Full Board	All Year

Goal 4 – Participate in Area IV Ag Cost Share Committee

1)	Attend Committee Meetings	Layton Staff	as Scheduled
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OBJECTIVE IV – MAINTAIN A STRONG ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Goal 1 – Increase Public Awareness of District Activities

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Contact newspapers through press releases related To District activities	Staff	All Year
2)	Design and distribute promotional brochures and pamphlets	Staff	All Year
3)	Publish and distribute newsletter	Staff	Bi-annual
4)	Maintain Conservation Awards Program	Full Board	May

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Goal 2 – Provide Educational Resources to public and private, primary and secondary schools and area Universities and colleges, as well as local groups, clubs and organizations

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	To provide teachers and instructors with classroom presentations	Staff	All Year
2)	Design and distribute a newsletter for teachers	Staff	Summer

Goal 3- Sponsor Environmental Field Days

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Work with various County and City Departments to coordinate the Environmental Field Days	Staff	November January July September October
2)	Contact public and private schools and local Scout Troops to establish interest and participation	Staff	All Year
3)	Make necessary arrangements regarding date, time, location, subject matter, etc.	Staff	November January July September October
4)	Hold event and publicize its success	Full Board	Fall

Goal 4 – Sponsor a Pond Workshop

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Make necessary arrangements; date, time & location.	Staff	February
2)	Hold event	Staff	April
3)	Publicize	Staff	April

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Goal 5 – Sponsor a Conservation Workshop

<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1) Make necessary arrangements re: date, time, location, and subject matter regarding program	Staff	July
2) Hold event and publicize its success	Full Board Staff	As Scheduled

Goal 6 – Promote Soil and Water Stewardship Week, Clean Water Week, National Wildlife Week, Poster and Essay Contests, Public Speaking Contest, Earth Day Celebration, and Conservation Activities

<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1) Solicit participation for the above conservation programs	Staff	All Year
2) Conduct annual completion of the above conservation programs	Staff	All Year
3) Publicize the above conservation programs through media	Staff	All Year

OBJECTIVE V – SUPPORT THE FEDERAL FARM BILL

Goal 1 – Educate Landowners and Interagency partnerships on Total Resources Management Concepts and Program Guidelines for development of local EQIP resource needs and objectives

<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1) Provide information and education through the newsletter, website, and other forms of media	Staff	All Year
2) Remain active in local work group to discuss various concerns	Full Board	As needed

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|----|--|---------------------|----------|
| 3) | Maintain a close relationship with FSA, Forest Service, Wildlife Resources Commission, CES, and other partners, In an effort to coordinate assistance to farmers | Staff | All Year |
| 4) | Support and participate in basin-wide priority area efforts | Full Board
Staff | All Year |

Goal 2 – Implement EQUIP to provide Cost Share for Resource Management Systems (RMS)

- | | <u>ACTION</u> | <u>WHO</u> | <u>WHEN</u> |
|----|--|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1) | Provide technical assistance to landowners in developing total resource conservation plans as needed | Staff | All Year |
| 2) | Rank EQUIP applications | DC | As Needed |
| 3) | Install practices according to NRCS standards and specifications as required | Staff | All Year |

Goal 3 – Implement WHIP to increase habitat on private lands

- | | <u>ACTION</u> | <u>WHO</u> | <u>WHEN</u> |
|----|--|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1) | Inform landowners about WHIP through various means such as information sheets, newsletters and website | Staff | All Year |
| 2) | Provide technical assistance to landowners wishing to Improve wildlife habitat as required | Staff | All Year |
| 3) | Prioritize and rank applications by utilizing the wildlife Habitat Index form, the ranking form, and the Conservation Plan | DC | All Year |
| 4) | Install practices according to NRCS standards and specifications as required | Staff | All Year |

Goal 4 – Continue to promote and implement The Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Make landowners aware of upcoming sign up periods through various forms of media	Staff	All Year
2)	Promote the continuous CRP to assist landowners in buffer implementations	Staff	All Year
3)	Process applications, complete plans, and write contracts as required	Staff	All Year
4)	Assist in plan installation as needed	Staff	All Year

Goal 5 – Promote and Implement the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Promote CREP through news articles and other Local media	Staff	All Year
2)	Visit interested landowners to discuss application options	Staff	All Year
3)	Assist landowners and FSA with application process	Staff	All Year
4)	Complete plans as necessary	Staff	All Year

Goal 6 – Actively Participate in the Piedmont Conservation & Development Council (RC & D)

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Solicit County for qualified committee members	Ray Eurquhart Staff	All Year
2)	Educate citizens and Public Officials on RC&D projects	Layton Staff	All Year

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3)	Solicit projects for RC&D funding within the County	Staff	All Year
4)	Work with RC&D Coordinator in securing grants for RC&D Projects	Staff	All Year
5)	Attend and actively participate in Council meetings	Layton	All Year

OBJECTIVE VI – ENHANCE DISTRICT IMAGE

Goal 1 – Press Relations

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Solicit a good working relationship with the local media	Full Board Staff	All Year

Goal 2 – Promote District Programs through in-house media outlets

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Create and distribute newsletter as needed	Full Board Staff	Bi-annual
2)	Maintain web site	Staff	All Year
3)	Staff booths at civic events	Full Board Staff	All Year
4)	Maintain awards program by recognizing worthy contestants	Full Board	May

OBJECTIVE VII- SEEK FUNDING SOURCES FOR DISTRICT ACTIVITIES

Goal 1 – To seek funding for District activities

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Solicit scholarship assistance to send additional Students to Resource Conservation Workshop	Full Board	All Year
2)	Solicit contributions and in-kind assistance for certificates and banners and educational brochures	Full Board	All Year
3)	Solicit contributions and grant funding for video Production, newsletters and outreach materials	Full Board	All Year
4)	Solicit contributions and grant funding for Environmental materials	Full Board	All Year
5)	Maintain wildflower, bird boxes and rain barrel sales	Full Board	All Year
6)	Solicit endowments for environmental awards	Full Board	All Year

Goal 2 – Establish financial assistance, in addition to county funding for district operations

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Solicit contracts with other units of government to carry out conservation education and district activities	Full Board	All Year
2)	Seek government grants to implement conservation programs and district activities	Full Board	All Year
3)	Solicit endowment for perpetual funding of district operations	Eurquhart Full Board	All Year

Goal 3 – Enhance Associates Memberships Program

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|----|--|------------|----------|
| 1) | Solicit businesses, educational institutes, and others to become associate members | Full Board | All Year |
|----|--|------------|----------|

OBJECTIVE VIII – SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE FARMLAND PROTECTION ORDINANCE

Goal 1 – Develop Broad-Based Support for Farmland Protection

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Actively participate in the Durham Farmland Protection Program	Eurquhart Layton Staff	All Year
2)	Continue to solicit landowners to participate in Protection Program	Staff	All Year
3)	Work closely with a variety of community Groups to gain support for protecting farmland	Full Board	All Year
4)	Develop and implement conservation plans	Staff	All Year
5)	Lobby appropriate officials for adequate funding in the purchasing of development rights	Full Board	All Year
6)	Provide information relating to preparing proposals for the Farm and Ranchland Protection Program	Staff	All Year
7)	Attend meetings as scheduled	Eurquhart Layton	As Scheduled
8)	Provide staff support to the Farmland Advisory Board	Staff	All Year

Goal 2 - Identify any statutory or regulatory impediments to the development of a Comprehensive Program

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Review with County attorney and Tax and Planning Departments local land use ordinances that adversely impact agricultural stability	Rosenthal	All Year
2)	Encourage local legislators to enact a Transfer of Development Rights Program for Durham County	Howerton	All Year
3)	Encourage local legislators to repeal tax laws that adversely affect agricultural lands	Howerton	All Year

OBJECTIVE IX – WORK CLOSELY WITH DURHAM CITY, COUNTY, AND STATE GOVERNMENT IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A STRONG WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Goal 1 – Reduce the impact of Agriculture and Urban Development on Water Quality within our Water Supply Watershed

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Target areas around reservoirs and streams for participation in Federal and State Cost Share Program	Full Board Staff	All Year
2)	Promote cooperative relationships with Upper Neuse Basin Association, New Hope Creek Corridor Committee, Eno River Association, Ellerbe Creek Watershed Association and other associations	Eurquhart	All Year

Goal 2 – Encourage maintenance of strong water quality regulations

1)	Continue to lobby Commissioners and Council Members to maintain strong water quality regulations Including forest land	Full Board	All Year
2)	Educate public on the importance of a strong ordinance Through a public relations campaign	Full Board	All Year

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3)	Create a sense of conservation awareness among commercial, industrial and residential developers	Full Board Staff	All Year
4)	Provide technical assistance to developers within Water Supply Watersheds	Staff	All Year
5)	Participate in Durham County/City Environmental Affairs Board in examining water quality and proposed ordinances	Rosenthal Staff	All Year
6)	Work with Local and State Officials in monitoring BMPs on major road construction projects and their Impact on water quality	Full Board	All Year

Goal 3 – Assist the County Environmental Engineering Staff in effective installation of Sediment and Erosion Control Plans

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Continue to review and comment on S& E plans submitted by developers	Full Board Staff	All Year
2)	Visit sites to better understand the installation process and to stay up-to-date on the developers adherence to S&E plans	Full Board	All Year
3)	Encourage proper installation of S&E practices By supporting training sessions for developers	Full Board Staff	All Year

OBJECTIVE X – TO ASSIST WITH IMPLEMENTING STATE REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO THE NEUSE RIVER BASIN

Goal 1 – Continue to support the work of various committees

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Attend scheduled meetings	Rosenthal	as scheduled
2)	Work with Neuse Tech to develop Annual Report	Staff	as scheduled

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3)	Utilize the Nitrogen loss Evaluation Worksheet	Staff	All Year
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Goal 2 – Educate Landusers and owners

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Visit urban and rural landusers and owners to discuss Neuse River rules	Staff	All Year
2)	Produce and distribute broadcast educational informational materials on the Neuse River rules	Staff	All Year
3)	Assist UNRB with implementation of the Upper Neuse Watershed Management Plan	Rosenthal	All Year

Goal 3 – Assist Landusers and Owners with compliance

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Work with landusers and owners in developing Conservation Plans to ensure compliance with the Farm Bill	Staff	All Year
2)	Install riparian buffers and associated BMPs as needed	Staff	All Year
3)	Conduct Annual Status Reviews	Staff	June
4)	Maintain current Nitrogen reduction percentages	Staff	All Year

OBJECTIVE XI – CARRY OUT EFFECTIVE EEO PROGRAM

Goal 1 – Increase Minority Awareness of NRCS and District Activities

	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>WHO</u>	<u>WHEN</u>
1)	Staff will ensure services are provided on an equal opportunity basis	Staff	All Year

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|----|---|-------|----------|
| 2) | Work with limited resource farmers and minority Landusers to ensure understanding of Food Security Act and continued implementation of their plans. | Staff | All Year |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Ensure EEO statement is included in all public information b. Review parity reports monthly to ensure equal opportunity c. Review demographic data annually to ensure accuracy d. Attend EEO training as provided | | |
| 3) | Install practices with cost share funds on minority farms | Staff | All Year |
| 4) | Recruit minorities and females as potential Employees and volunteers | Staff | All Year |
| 5) | Comply with Federal, State, County EEO, and Civil Rights policies | Staff | All Year |

Adapted this Plan of Work for Fiscal Year 2008

Chairman

Vice Chairman

Secretary/Treasurer

Supervisor

Supervisor

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